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BRITISH CRISIS OF Get Parental

was in no way responsible. The government wants 10 percent of the increase in value of his property thus

Undeveloped Land Taxed.

The third feature is the tax on un developed land, a direct tax of half-penny in the pound, a trifle over 2 percent, payable annually; the land to be reassessed every five years. This is the only one of the land taxes which is analogous to the general practice of state taxation in the United States. Strange to say it was the most objectional feature of the entire Lloyd-George scheme. The landlords could stomach an increment duty and a reversion duty, in which they were forced to give to the state a portion of the money earned for them by the community, but they regarded as a onstrous imposition the taxation of

their idle land. It was a blow aimed directly at the heart of the British aristocracy, for it meant a tax on the game preserves. The horrible suggestion was made that it might force some of the game preserves to be turned back to the vulgar uses of agriculture, in order that the land might come under the exceptions granted to farm lands.

Would Break Up Land Holding. Of course the government designed these taxes as much to make large land holding unprefitable, and therefore to force division of estates, as it did not raise revenues. In this respect it may be said that the taxes were not bona fide revenue measures, but were aimed to break up, as far as possible, the present land system. The Tories made the most of the argument against this abuse of the taxing power, but in the some breath they clamored for pro-tective tariff to protect their wheat fields against the "pauper" wheat of America and Argentina.

As a matter of fact the new land taxes are not revolutionary, except in England. They are the same taxes as are imposed in France, in Germany, in the United States, in Australia, and in practically every civilized nation in the world. The hue and cry against the Lloyd-George Budget came from a comparatively few people who live by the labor of the many, and who had come to regard their inequitable and unjust privileges as being the rightful

reward of superiority.

The Burdensome Land Laws. Englishmen, secure in their smug comiacency, look across the Atlantic and pity the poor Americans engaged in a titanic struggle with the trusts, and pharisalcally give thanks they are not as the rest of men. But as a matter of fact a third of the people of England are hungry because of the extortions of trust more powerful

Land Trust Grasping.
The Land Trust is the curse of England, since it controls not only prac-tically all of the land, but also because that control has the approval of law and custom, because that Trust has permanent majority in the hamber of parliament, and because owning the land it centrols all of the products of the land. This Trust is not organized on the New Jersey holding 212 SAN ANTONIO ST. company principle, but it is none the less a compact and effective organizapoard of directors, but is none the less susceptible to the control of the cap-tains of privilege, and is bound tothe strictest of men's agreements in an eternal community of

> To utter a word in derogation of that Trust is to breathe treason against, the state and against all organized civilization, in the estimation of conservative Britons. Even the miserable tenant peasant regards the proposition to cut up his lordship's estate as a nonstrous crime.

> But all Britons are not conservative. The Liberal party, now in power in the mons, has determined to attack this gigantic land monopoly and, if possible, o ameliorate its evils. An American observer could not but sympathize with the arder of the Radical hosts, who, in the recent campaign, sang as a rallying song, to the tune of "Marching Through Georgia," these words:
> "Sound a blast for freedom, boys, and

send it far and wide! March along to victory, for God is on our side!

While the voice of Nature thunders o'er the rising tide-

"God made the land for the people!" The land! The land! 'Twas God who gave the land!

The land! The land! The ground on which we stand! Why should we be beggars with the ballot in our hand? God gave the land to the people!

It is true that some good Americans might have been shocked to see the portrait of their compatriot, Henry

300

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Forgiveness |



Philander C. Knox, jr., and his beautiful eighteenyearold bridesalesgiri-who have gone to live in his father's country home, near Philadel-phia. The parental forgiveness which was withheld following his elopement and his marriage to Miss May Bowler, was finally granted owing to the inter-vention of his snother and brothers. His income of \$100 a month he had from

eight million people living in the coun- break up of their own weight. The land cultivated by these eight million people produces considerabmore than does any similar acreage in United States, showing that farmers are thrifty and industrices posed of in many ways, but there is husbandmen. Of the eight million, seldom an outright sale. Sustaining the about sixty-one thousand own the farms which they till. All of the rest of the land, the law makes the transfer of ownland, approximately twenty-five million acres, is owned by about forty thousand discourage any general trading in land and landlords, and the greater part is owned by fewer than five thousand fused to require the registry of deeds, landlords, many of them being parts so that the title to land always is difand members of the house of lords. In other words, 99.2 per cent of the farmers of England are tenants. If that condition prevailed in the United States If that there might be songbooks there with Henry George's picture on the back.

Waen the further fact that these tenants pay all of the taxes on this land and that the owners pay none what ever, is taken into consideration, then one can form some idea of how onerous is the burden of rents which these ten ant farmers must pay to support the idle landlords in the particular style of luxury attaching to "English country life.

Many Small Land Holders

In the time of Queen Elizabeth cottagers were compelled to own at least four acres of land to support each house. At the end of the seventeenth century there were 700,000 land-holding peasants in England. At the beginning of the nineteenth century there were fore than twice as many land-owning farmers as there are today, and there was a vast amount of "common land" which was used and enjoyed by the community in general. In the first half of the nineteenth century, when 150 land owners returned from rotten boroughs a majority of the house of commons, this land was "enclosed" and became private property, the most of it going to enlarge the estates of the peers and other gentry.

In the last half century there has been no disposition to subdivide estates. On the contrary, most of the changes made have been in the direction of further increasing individual holdings and of retiring agricultural land from cultivation. The situation has been growing worse steadily from year to year, and is, of course, responsible for that "agricultural depression," so much deplored by British statesmen and pub-

All Land to Oldest Son The bulwark of the land trust is the law of entail with the principle of pri-mogeniture. The law of entail makes It possible to settle land upon a child unborn, and operates to enable owners to transmit lauded estates unbroken and undivided to future generations. As the land descends to the oldest son, division and dispersion of the land is prevented. This law has succeeded in imposed themselves upon the people as the "governing class."

tion yet unborn, is construed as an attack upon the institution of private Virginia and it was eminently success pon the heart of England.

George, on the back of the song book, it is probable that within 50 years the but it is possible that even they would two thousand owners of half the land think more of a certain plan of pro-gress if they had been brought fare to thousand, and in a century the land face with a certain variety of poverty. would be so divided as to make impos Burden Affects All Dwellers. sible that coherence requisite to mo burden of the land trust in Eng- nopoly. In some parts of the United land falls heavily upon both city and States one begins to hear murmuring country dweller, but for the purpose of against the practice of buying and Illustration it will suffice to consider holding large estates by absentee land-the situation in the rural districts. lords, but because of the American England and Wales, with a total popo- | dand laws these large estates can not lation of about thirty-two million, have be entailed, and therefore soon will Land Rarely Sold.

In England land is rarely sold. It is let to tenants by the year; it is leased for long or short terms; its use is disnatural prejudice against parting with ership so difficult and expensive as to Parliament time and time again has reficult to trace. Where sales are made, the tracing of the title and the expense of transfer averages 10 per cent of the value of the land, and in many instances two or three times that amount

Not only is the peasant farmer forced to pay tribute to this all-embracing trust, but the industries also are com pelled to contribute largely to its cof fers. For example, take the Rhondda valley, a coal mining region of South Sixty years ago the valley had only a thousand people; now its population is 135,000. The same landlords, with perhaps a minor exception or two. who owned the land then own it now. Then they received practically nothing from rents; now they receive \$150,000 a year from ground rents and more than \$1,000,000 a year from rayalties, on the basis of 12 cents a ton for the coal taken out.

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69 Cents Lot VI .-

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59 Cents



all of the taxes, which amount to \$220,- | to the land trust was the Lloyd-George 600 a year. When coal was discovered budget, which imposed certain taxes there, the landlords refused absolutely which would make the ownership of o sell and thus they have been reaping for many years past an annual harvest lits sale or return to agricultural uses of nearly a million and a quarter dollars But even that would not affect to any a year without paying a cent of taxes, considerable degree the farm lands now without taking any risks, without exerclsing any business ingenuity or any talent of direction. They simply own pression.) the land and collect the money.

In one instance in South Wales a mining company which makes a profit

idle land so burdensome as to compel

TERRIBLY SCALDED of \$15,000 a year pays \$60,000 a year rent and royalty to the landlords and \$17,500 a year in taxes. If ever there scalds eitreh slight or serious are 7,500 a year in taxes. If ever there scalds eitreh slight or serious are bound to happen in your family, be preabsorbed that much of any particular pared by having a bettle of Ballard's tion, none of the muckrakers has yet | Snow Liniment handy. It relieves the The first real movement in hostility burn. Sold by all druggists.

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